

Citrus Cutworm

Source of Information: Lindcove Research and Extension Center

Biofix: January 24, 2002 for the Exeter and Ivanhoe area

Lower developmental threshold: 45.6°F

Current Accumulated Degree Day Units: 10 DD

Begin Sampling for Cutworm Larvae: 250 DD

Citrus cutworm moth captures began in mid January, but heavy frosts and cold mornings are keeping moth activity very light at this time compared to last year. Although degree-day accumulations have already begun, significant numbers of moths are not expected to emerge for another week to ten days. Using a lower developmental threshold of 46°F and a biofix of the second week of consecutive moth flight (January 24th), we should find the more easily seen 2nd instar larvae arriving approximately 350 degree-days later. The earliest we have seen larvae emerge is at 250 degree-days and so that is when you should begin sampling. We will keep you informed of the degree-day units as they accumulate via email and the Internet at

<http://www.uckac.edu/citrusent/>.

If you are interested in trapping for cutworm moths, pheromone caps can be made available to you by writing to Greg Montez at gregm@uckac.edu, or phone 559-646-6500.

Microbial pesticides are most effective when applied approximately 400-550 degrees after moths begin flying, when the population consists primarily of 1st and 2nd instar larvae. See your Citrus IPM manual or guidelines for details of how to sample. Insecticide treatment recommendations can be found in the citrus guidelines that you can purchase from your UC Cooperative Extension Office, or by subscription as Publication 3339 from UC DANR Communication Services (800-994-8849), or on the World Wide Web

(<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu>).